



# ***BLM News***

---

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*  
*CONTACT:* Kirsten Cannon

September 12, 2002  
Phone: (702) 515-5057

## **Free Wild Horse Information Clinic Offered**

**Las Vegas** – On September 14 and 28, 2002, education clinics will be offered for potential wild horse and burro adopters at Intermountain Farmers Association.

The clinics, co-sponsored by BLM; National Wild Horse Association; University of Nevada, Reno; and IFA offer interactive topics such as nutrition, what to do when you get your horse home and how to gentle your horse.

The clinics will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at IFA, 3176 West Martin Ave.

The next BLM wild horse and burro adoption will be held on Sunday, October 6, a day after the National Wild Horse Association holds their annual show.

For information on how to qualify to adopt in Nevada, visit the BLM Web site at [www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov](http://www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov) or call 702-515-5000.

# # #

The origin of wild horses dates back to the days of Columbus and Hernando Cortez, Italian and Spanish explorers who brought horses to North America. Burros were brought by Jesuit missionaries and later used extensively by miners. Many of the descendants of these horses and burros escaped or were abandoned by settlers, ranchers, prospectors, Native American tribes and the U.S. Cavalry between the late 1800s and 1930s.

These feral creatures subsequently were hunted by “mustangers.” Considered pests by many who were trying to settle the West, their population was greatly reduced. A public outcry in the late 1960s influenced Congress to enact the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act in 1971, providing for the protection, management and control of wild horses and burros on the public land. Federal protection and the absence of natural predators contributed to flourishing populations.

Nevada is home to more than half of the nation’s wild horses. These animals live in more than 100 Herd Management Areas, most of which are located on BLM land.